NEWS ANALYSIS 1-1082 7/9/76
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TERRORISM AND THE U.N.

ANNCR:

THE UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL IS CONSIDERING THE ISRAELI COMMANDO RAID INTO UGANDA WHICH FREED SOME ONE HUNDRED HOSTAGES OF TERRORISTS WHO HAD FLOWN THEM THERE ABOARD A HIJACKED PLANE. NEWS ANALYST FRED GALVAN LOOKS AT SOME OF THE BROAD ASPECTS OF THE PROBLEM DRAMATIZED BY THAT INCIDENT.

VOICE:

THE PROBLEM, PURE AND SIMPLE, IS WHAT THE WORLD'S NATIONS INTEND TO DO ABOUT TERRORISM AND ITS INEVITABLE CONSEQUENCES. THE INCIDENT AT ENTEBBE AIRPORT IN UGANDA LENDS URGENCY TO THE CONSULTATIONS NOW GOING ON AT UNITED NATIONS HEADQUARTERS AMONG THOSE WHO WOULD CONDEMN THE ISRAELI ACTION AND THOSE WHO WOULD BROADEN THE ISSUE -- SECRETARY-GENERAL WALDHEIM AND AMERICAN AMBASSADOR SCRANTON AMONG THEM -- TO INCLUDE THE WHOLE QUESTION OF TERRORISM.

IN A STATEMENT ISSUED AT U.N. HEADQUARTERS THURSDAY, SECRETARY WALDHEIM USED THE ENTEBBE INCIDENT TO ILLUSTRATE THE URGENCY OF FINDING WAYS TO DEAL WITH THE PROBLEM. HE POINTED OUT THAT HE HAS BEEN TRYING FOR THREE YEARS TO GET THE UNITED NATIONS TO ACT ON THE TERROISM ISSUE. THE POSITION TAKEN BY DOCTOR WALDHEIM HAS THE FIRM SUPPORT OF THE UNITED STATES AND OTHER DELEGATIONS -- PARTICULARLY THOSE WHO HAVE SUFFERED AT FIRST-HAND THE DEPREDATIONS OF TERRORISTS.

THOSE DEPREDATIONS HAVE INCREASED MARKEDLY OVER THE PAST EIGHT YEARS IN MANY AREAS OF THE WORLD -- THE MIDDLE EAST, AFRICA, WESTERN EUROPE, LATIN AMERICA AND NORTH AMERICA. RELIABLE ESTIMATES PLACE THE NUMBER OF VICTIMS OF INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM IN THE PAST EIGHT YEARS AT EIGHT HUNDRED KILLED BY TERRORISTS AND SOME SEVENTEEN HUNDRED WOUNDED. AND THAT DOES NOT INCLUDE VICTIMS KILLED IN TERRORIST-RIDDEN COUNTRIES LIKE LEBANON OR ARGENTINA WHERE THE MURDERED AND WOUNDED CAN BE COUNTED IN THE THOUSANDS.

THE SITUATION IN THE PAST YEAR HAS INCREASED AWARENESS IN MANY NATIONS OF THE MAGNITUDE AND URGENCY OF THE TERRORISM PROBLEM. FOR EXAMPLE, THE NINE EUROPEAN COMMON MARKET NATIONS LAST MONTH ISSUED A COMMUNIQUE CALLING FOR GREATER COOPERATION AMONG THEM IN COMBATTING TERRORIST ACTIVITIES. AND THEY ARE TAKING ACTIVE STEPS TO INCREASE SECURITY MEASURES AGAINST SUCH ACTIVITIES. EARLIER THIS YEAR VENEZUELA AND COLOMBIA -- TWO SOUTH AMERICAN NATIONS WITH FIRST-HAND EXPERIENCE WITH TERRORISM OF ALL KINDS -- URGED THAT THE NEXT SESSION OF THE U.N. GENERAL ASSEMBLY DO SOMETHING ABOUT THE PROBLEM.

THE UNITED STATES FOR SEVERAL YEARS NOW HAS PROPOSED THAT THE UNITED NATIONS TAKE SPECIFIC, PRACTICAL MEASURES TO DEAL WITH INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM. BUT SO FAR ITS EFFORTS HAVE BEEN FRUSTRATED. SECRETARY KISSINGER JUST THIS WEEK NOTED THIS SAD CIRCUMSTANCE. BUT IN COMMENTING ON THE ENTABBE EPISODE, HE ADDED: "WE BELIEVE IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT SOME INTERNATIONAL ARRANGEMENT BE MADE TO DEAL WITH TERRORISM BECAUSE IT CANNOT BE TOLERATED THAT INNOCENT PEOPLE BECOME THE PLAYTHINGS OF INTERNATIONAL THUGS."

TO THAT, A WORLD SICKENED BY THE CRIMES PERPETRATED BY SUCH THUGS CAN ONLY SAY "SO BE IT." BUT MORE THAN THAT AS MANY NATIONS SEE IT, THE TIME HAS COME TO SUIT ACTION TO THAT PHRASE.